

Dan Young
4374 Cesar Chavez Street
San Francisco CA 94131

Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I want to voice my support for increased competition in the cable/networking industry, and in particular praise fiber and other broadband providers who are disrupting the market that AT&T and Comcast control.

I felt I had only two options for cable/internet at my home in San Francisco: AT&T or Comcast. It was terrible and a topic that my work colleagues and I lamented during lunch conversations. When I moved from Comcast to Sonic (a company I have been very impressed with for customer service, reliability, wildly faster internet speeds, ease of use and dramatically lower cost; I was not happy with the big companies' service) I was paying Comcast \$270/month (internet, phone, basic channels and some premium ones). Prior to moving to Sonic from Comcast, I tried twice to lower my base fees but there were no viable offerings to do so. I was stuck. When I 'cut the cable' and moved to Sonic, my internet speed increased 10x and my monthly subscription fee moved to \$64/month for fiber internet and phone only (i.e., no content). We then signed up for Netflix, Hulu and Amazon Prime (in place of Showtime, HBO, Starz and Cinemax at Comcast) for about \$36/month and ended up with great internet, excellent programming/content and a monthly bill of ~\$100 for cable, phone and content (63% savings). While Sonic does not get revenue from the content providers, it has enabled me to likewise utilize their great entertainment options over that which was offered by the big cable companies, which was limited.

I have a 2nd home in the desert in Southern California. There I am largely limited to one provider - Spectrum (formerly Time Warner). Through them I'm paying \$80/month for 30 mb/sec cable/internet access alone vs. Sonic's \$64/month for fiber 1000mb/sec and phone. It's absurd that I don't have more options. The lack of competition in the desert is painful and demonstrates why more competition is needed. I should have a choice and have companies competing for my business.

Please promote increased broadband competition throughout the US, and certainly don't make it worse by making it easier for the behemoth cable players to squash smaller firms offering deals that encourage competition.

Dan Young